

USPTO Serial No. 08/545,707
Response to Office Action dated 6/23/04
Docket No. 93A007 (P1993J109)

- 2 -

REMARKS

The Examiner contends that a restriction is required under 35 U.S.C. § 121 and 372. The following groups of claims were identified by the Examiner:


- Group I, claims 1-2 and 12-20, drawn to a molecular sieve layer;
- Group II, claims 3-11 and 26, drawn to a method of preparing a molecular sieve layer;
- Group III, claims 21-23, drawn to a separation process; and
- Group IV, claims 24-25, drawn to a catalytic process.

Applicants elect, with traverse, Group I, claims 1-2 and 12-20 that are drawn to a molecular sieve layer. It is applicants' position that all claims of this application should be examined together since it would not place an undue burden on the United States Patent and Trademark Office to do so. A search relating to Group I claims should uncover art relating to all Groups, and thus all claims can be examined more efficiently in one application.

Therefore, applicants request that all four Groups of claims be examined in the present application.

Respectfully submitted,

Date: 11 August 2004


Gerard J. Hughes, Reg. No. 41,855
Attorney for Applicants
Telephone No.: (225) 977-4942
Facsimile No.: (225) 977-1025

Correspondence Address:
ExxonMobil Research and Engineering Company
P. O. Box 900
Annandale, New Jersey 08801-0900